

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

TRSE-00 DHA-02 ARAE-00 /054 W

-----181903Z 126605 /45

P R 181823Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3668

INFO USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 1481

ARA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

USINFO FOR IOP/M, ILA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XM, UY

SUBJ: REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S OAS SPEECH PART I

REF: (A) STATE 84912, (B) MONTEVIDEO 1472

1. SUMMARY. GOU OFFICIALS SO FAR HAVE MADE NO PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S OAS SPEECH. PRESS REACTION, OTHER THAN STRAIGHT REPORTING, HAS BEEN CONFINED TO A SINGLE EDITORIAL. END SUMMARY.

2. TO DATE THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC COMMENT BY GOU OFFICIALS REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S OAS SPEECH. HOWEVER, EMBASSY OFFICERS ARE TALKING PRIVATELY WITH HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS AND OTHERS. REACTIONS GATHERED FROM THESE CONVERSATIONS WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

3. PRESS COMMENT SO FAR HAS BEEN CONFINED TO A SINGLE EDITORIAL (REFTEL B) IN THE CONSERVATIVE, PRO-GOVERNMENT DAILY EL PAIS. THE EDITORIAL'S COMMENTS ON THE PUBLIC UNCLASSIFIED

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STATEMENTS OF SOME U.S. OFFICIALS, WHICH THE PAPER SAYS ARE LATER CONTRADICTED BY OTHER STATEMENTS OR ACTIONS, ARE SELECTED AND DESIGNED TO PRESENT THE VIEW THAT OUR LATIN AMERICAN POLICY NEEDS TO BE MORE COHERENT AND MORE PRECISELY DEFINED. THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT THE SPEECH WAS NOT SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR TO DISPEL THE DOUBTS GENERATED BY THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. THE EDITORIAL DOES END ON A NOTE OF OPTI-

MISM NOTING THAT THE SPEECH WAS A BASIS FOR BETTER  
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE U. S. AND LATIN AMERICA.

4. EL PAIS' EDITORIAL TREATMENT OF THE SPEECH WAS NOTABLY  
IN CONTRAST TO ITS OWN BOLD HEADLINE ONE DAY EARLIER  
WHICH ANNOUNCED "HUMAN RIGHTS RELEGATED TO SECOND PLACE",  
A CONCLUSION GARNERED APPARENTLY FROM THE FACT THAT HUMAN  
RIGHTS WAS MENTIONED AFTER A RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY IN  
THE PRESIDENT'S DISCUSSION OF THE THREE BASIC ELEMENTS  
WHICH WILL GUIDE OUR POLICY TOWARD LATIN AMERICAN AND THE  
CARIBBEAN. GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES HERE, THIS WAS, OF  
COURSE, A DELIBERATE AND GRATUITOUS INTERPRETATION DESIGNED  
TO SERVE LOCAL INTERESTS.  
SIRACUSA

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009